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Borough of Cheltenham



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

Health of Cheltenham

Vital Statistics, Sanitary Work, &c.

FOR THE YEAR

1940

BY

DONALD E. MORLEY, M.D. (Lond.), D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Together with the Report of
F. R. JEFFORD, M.R.San.I., F.S.I.A.

CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR

“Salus Populi Suprema Lex”

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*To His Worship the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of
the Borough of Cheltenham.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Health of the Borough of Cheltenham during 1940.

The Minister of Health has asked for a summary report on the same lines as that for 1939.

The effect of the war on the work of the Health Department has again been felt mainly in connection with the limitation of work concerned with the routine inspection of houses, reconditioning, and the enforcement of repairs under the Housing Act.

In a number of ways, however, the work increased and duties associated with the prosecution of the war have added to the work of all members of the department. A record number of patients was provided for at the Delancey Fever Hospital. This was not due to an increase in the number of cases of infectious disease among the ordinary inhabitants of the town, but was accounted for mainly by the admission of 36 evacuees and 49 military patients. In addition, 41 patients, most of whom were suffering from diphtheria, were admitted to relieve Gloucester City Infectious Disease Hospital.

Maternity work in the Borough increased rapidly during the year and many small nursing homes dealt with record numbers of patients. The opening of "Sunnyside Maternity Home" for evacuated mothers in the reconstructed premises of Pengwern College has meant an addition of over 70 maternity beds and the possibility of an additional 1,000 births in the Borough this year. The Victoria Home Maternity Ward provided for 85 cases under the Borough Scheme and 35 County cases. If the advantages obtainable under the Borough Scheme were more generally known the accommodation at this Home would, under present conditions, be severely strained.

In conclusion I once again take the opportunity of expressing my thanks to the members of the Council for their consideration in the conduct of the work and to the staff for the zeal and loyalty with which they have carried out their duties in difficult times.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

DONALD E. MORLEY,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1941.

SUMMARY OF GENERAL AND VITAL STATISTICS, 1940.

Area of borough (in acres)—5,146

Population { Census 1931, Corrected Figure, ... 49,418
 Registrar General's Estimates :
 Population, Mid-year, 1940 ... 58,480

Number of inhabited houses (structurally separate)

(Census 1921)—10,928. (Census 1931)—12,272.

Number of inhabited houses (end 1940) according to Rate Books—15,675.

Number of families or separate occupiers (Census 1921)—11,862.

(Census 1931)—13,211.

Rateable value £468,588. Sum represented by a penny rate £1,855.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR 1940.

	M.	F.	Totals	Rate	
LIVE BIRTHS—Legitimate	454	386	840	Birth Rate per 1000 population.	
Illegitimate	23	14	37		
Totals	477	400	877	14.99	
(Birth Rate Engd. & Wales 15.0)					
STILL BIRTHS—Legitimate	19	21	40	Still Birth Rate per 1000 (Live and Still) Births.	
Illegitimate	1	1	2		
Totals	20	22	42	41.21	
Death Rate for Engd. & Wales— Per 1000 Civil population 14.3	420	551	971	Death Rate per 1000 population. 16.6	
Cheltenham deaths from Puerperal Causes.			Deaths	Per 1000 Total Live and Still Births.	
				Cheltenham	England and Wales
Puerperal Sepsis ...	...	—	—	—	0.52
Other Puerperal Causes ...	...	3	3	2.94	1.64
Totals ...	...	3	3	2.94	2.16
Deaths of Infants under one year of age.			Rate per 1000 Live Births.		
Legitimate Illegitimate Totals	M	F	Totals	Cheltenham	England and Wales
	33	12	45		
	2	—	2		
	35	12	47	48.1	55
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)—119.					
Deaths from Measles (all ages)—2.					
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)—0.					
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)—3.					
Corrected General Death Rate.					
The application of the Registrar General's Factor (.82 for Cheltenham) to correct for age and sex distribution gives a corrected death rate of 13.6					

Causes of Death in Borough of Cheltenham in 1940 as given by the Registrar General. (Total Deaths 971).

CAUSES OF DEATH.								M.	F.		
All Causes ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	420	551
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
2 Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	—
3 Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
4 Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
5 Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
6 Influenza	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12	9
7 Encephalitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—
8 Cerebro-spinal Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	2
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16	13
10 Other tuberculous diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	6
11 Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	4
12 General paralysis of the insane, tabes dorsalis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
13 Cancer, malignant disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39	80
14 Diabetes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	6
15 Intracranial Vasular Lesions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25	50
16 Heart disease	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	107	148
17 Aneurysm	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
18 Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	17
19 Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	45
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23	29
21 Other respiratory diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11	5
22 Peptic ulcer	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7	1
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—
24 „ „ (2 years and over)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
25 Appendicitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	4
26 Cirrhosis of liver	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
27 Other diseases of liver, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
28 Other digestive diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6	20
29 Acute and chronic nephritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	15
30 Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
31 Other maternal causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	3
32 Congenital debility, premature birth, malformations, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21	8
33 Senility	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	—	—
34 Suicide	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	2
35 Road Traffic Accidents	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8	5
36 Other violent causes...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	21
37 All other causes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	52	58
Deaths of Infants under 1 year								Legitimate	...	33	12
								Illegitimate	...	2	—
								Totals	...	35	12
Live Births (a) Normal								Legitimate	...	454	386
								Illegitimate	...	23	14
								Totals	...	477	400
Live Births (b) Including war residents								Legitimate	...	502	435
								Illegitimate	...	24	16
								Totals	...	526	451
Stillbirths								Legitimate	...	19	21
								Illegitimate	...	1	1
								Totals	...	20	22
Resident Population	58,480	

NOTES ON VITAL STATISTICS FOR 1940.

The Registrar General's figures relating to 1940 arrived in July.

Population.

A single figure is given for 1940 in place of the two figures given last year. The estimate of 58,480 is greater by 4,350 than the larger figure given last year.

Death Rate.

Deaths during 1940 numbered 971. This is the largest number of deaths on record for the borough, but as it includes deaths of persons temporarily residing in Cheltenham on account of the war, a high figure is not surprising. The death rate per 1,000 population was 16·6. This is the highest since 1933. The figure corrected for the age and sex distribution of the population, however, is 13·6 compared with 14·3 for the whole country. There is little doubt that the temporary residents included an undue proportion of nursing home cases and other invalids whose presence affected the figures adversely.

Birth Rate.

Live births numbered 877, the highest figure since 1920, giving a birth rate of approximately 15 per thousand of population, a figure only fractionally lower than that for 1939 which was the highest since 1921.

A special figure of 977 births has been provided by the Registrar for calculating the infant mortality rate, which shows that one hundred additional live births were ascribed to persons temporarily resident in the Borough on account of the war. In addition nearly 300 children were born in the Borough to mothers who came into nursing homes from surrounding districts.

Infant Mortality.

There were 47 deaths of infants under the age of 12 months giving a death rate of 48·1 compared with the figure of 55 for the whole country.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

These were described in some detail in the Annual Report for 1936, and it is unnecessary to repeat the information as there is no change of importance to record.

THE SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

The reports on Drainage, Sewerage, Meat Inspection, etc., will be found in the report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

During the hot summer of 1940 the Open Air Swimming Pool proved a great attraction. Many families, unable on account of the war to take the usual seaside holiday, found at least some slight compensation in spending time there.

Periodical analyses of the water showed that a reasonable standard of purity was maintained though there were days of particularly large attendances when the 100% perfection was lost towards the end of the day.

The Montpellier Bath was closed early in the summer as it was needed for other purposes.

No complaints were received in connection with the Alstone Baths and the Children's Pool at St. Peter's.

WATER SUPPLY.

During 1940 analyses of 295 samples of water were considered by the Borough Water Committee. These included samples taken regularly from all sources of supply.

The analyses showed that a very high standard of purity was maintained at all sources of supply during the year.

On one or two occasions the Severn supply showed numerous very minute colonies on Agar. This is a seasonal phenomenon and is without significance as regards purity.

Bacillus Coli was present in high dilution, that is in 100 c.c. on two occasions in the Dowdeswell sample and once in the Northfield sample. In the case of the latter, chlorination had been suspended on account of mechanical defects. These defects have been remedied and they cannot recur.

The extension of the Tewkesbury Works is not yet complete, but one of the new engines has been working for some time so that some increase in supply is available when required.

HOUSING (Overcrowding and Disinfestation).

War conditions brought progress in housing to a standstill during 1940 and abatement of overcrowding was limited to a few outstanding cases.

DISINFESTATION.

Transport difficulties prevented the use of cyanide for disinfestation. Fumigation with "Thermatox" however, has proved a valuable alternative.

Ten Council houses and thirteen privately owned houses were treated by this method.

MILK (Special Designations) Order, 1936.

The following licences were issued by Cheltenham Borough Council during 1940 :—

					<i>Type of Licence Issued.</i>		
					<i>Producers</i>	<i>Dealers</i>	<i>Supplementary</i>
A.	Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	—	...	—	3	—
B.	Accredited	...	...	...	—	—	1
C.	Pasteurised	...	...	...	2	3	—

Licences for production of Tuberculin Tested and Certified Milk are issued by the County Council.

Two firms hold licences for pasteurising plants established in the Borough. Both plants are of the modern "positive holding" type. In addition two outside firms retail pasteurised milk in the Borough.

Samples of the pasteurised supplies are taken quarterly for tests as to efficiency of pasteurisation. The results of examination of samples taken during 1940 did not all reach the high standard expected. Failures were attributed, not without reason, to conditions associated with the war. Improved results have, however, been obtained following more attention to detail in production.

THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES, 1940.

The following statement shows the numbers of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year, together with the numbers admitted to hospital, where the figures are available, and the deaths from each disease. The table includes Cheltenham Borough cases only.

Disease.					Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox	...	...	...	...	—	—	0
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	96	64	0
Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	110	107	0
Typhoid Fever	...	...	...	...	1	—	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	15	5	0
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	70	6	52
Polio-myelitis	...	...	...	...	1	1	0
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	22	5	0
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	17	13	3

Ophthalmia Neonatorum, 1940.

Cases			Vision un- impaired	Vision Impaired	Total Blindness	Deaths
Notified	Treated					
	At Home	In Hospital				
3	2	1	2 (1 Removed from District)	—	—	—

Diphtheria.

The incidence of this disease again decreased somewhat during the year. The number of cases notified was 110 compared with 136 and 179 for the two previous years.

The cases on the average were not so severe as previously and there was no death.

Immunisation was offered as usual but acceptances were not so numerous as in 1939.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

The following statement gives the figures relating to immunisations carried out during 1940 :—

Number of cases in which immunisation was commenced ...	316
Number of completed cases.	206
Number of cases in which attendance ceased before completion	5
Number of Schick Tests	142

Scarlet Fever.

Notifications numbered 96. The disease was mainly mild in type and admissions to the Delancey Hospital totalled 78 including a number of military cases transferred from the Emergency Hospital. There was no death.

Typhoid Fever.

One isolated case occurred and the source of infection was not discovered.

Cerebrospinal Meningitis.

Ten cases were notified, but six of the notifications related to patients admitted to the General Hospital from outside areas. These cases were transferred to the Delancey Hospital after diagnosis of the condition.

DELANCEY FEVER HOSPITAL REPORT.

Particulars as to accommodation and staff were included in the report for 1938.

Table of cases admitted during 1939.

		Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Diphtheria and Scarlet Fever	Meningococcal Meningitis	Erysipelas	Measles	German Measles	Mumps	Dysentery	Observation cases	TOTALS
Cheltenham Borough	...	61	107	3	13	5	13	6		1	12	221
Cheltenham R.D.C.	...	46	14		1	2					4	67
Charlton Kings U.D.C.	...	4	2		2							8
North Cotswold R.D.C.	...	25	4		11		3				1	44
Tewkesbury Borough	...	12						1			1	14
Military	...	19	7		6	1	4	8	1		3	49
Gloucester City	...	5	36									41
Cirencester	...				1							1
Private Wards	...	2	3		2		2	1				10
Staff	...	1						2				3
TOTALS	...	175	173	3	36	8	22	18	1	1	21	458

ANNUAL REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE DELANCEY HOSPITAL DURING 1940.

During 1940, 458 cases were admitted. This is a record in the history of the hospital. The previous highest figure was 442 for the year 1914. On no other occasion has the 400 mark been reached. Totals of 300 or over were: 371 in 1913 and 366 and 356 in 1938 and 1939 respectively. The highest and second highest totals in 1940 and 1914 were for war years and it is an odd coincidence that the third and fourth highest totals were for years immediately preceding years in which war broke out, *i.e.*, 1913 and 1938.

Cheltenham Borough sent in 221 cases, rather less than half the total, Cheltenham Rural District sent in 67, and North Cotswold 44.

Patients serving with His Majesty's Forces numbered 49, and Evacuees 36. Owing to a widespread outbreak of Diphtheria in Gloucester City, 41 patients were admitted from that area. The total includes 175 cases of Diphtheria, 180 of Scarlet Fever and 36 of Meningococcal Meningitis.

Deaths numbered 8, of which 3 were from Diphtheria (1·8% of the admissions). No Cheltenham Borough case died of this disease during the year. Two Diphtheria cases required the operation of Tracheotomy, and both of these recovered.

The other five deaths were from Meningitis (14% of admissions).

The nursing arrangements were maintained in the usual state of efficiency, in spite of increasing difficulties in staffing.

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1940.

Age Periods	New Cases				Deaths			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Under 1 year	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—5 years	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	2
5—15 „	2	—	3	1	—	—	2	1
15—25 „	12	4	3	—	2	1	—	1
25—35 „	10	4	—	4	—	3	—	—
35—45 „	6	—	—	—	3	3	—	—
45—55 „	8	1	—	—	3	1	—	1
55—65 „	5	1	—	—	3	—	—	1
65 and upwards	—	2	—	—	—	3	2	—
	43	12	7	7	11	11	4	6
Registrar General's Figures ... ..	...	...	...	...	16	13	3	6

The Tuberculosis death-rates for 1940 were as follows :—

Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.49	} Per 1,000 of Population.
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis	0.15	

The County is responsible for the provision of treatment and such isolation of patients as is practicable.

Arrangements for disinfection, etc. were in line with the practice described in previous reports.

The Tuberculosis After Care Committee again did much good work in the Borough. The advice and assistance provided will be needed even more during the war emergency.

NURSING HOMES REGISTRATION.

At the commencement of 1940 there were 23 Nursing Homes on the register. This number includes the Maternity Ward of the Public Assistance Institution and the maternity block of a large nursing home which is for practical purposes a separate institution. During the year one small home was given up and one very large maternity home was registered. The latter is the County maternity home for evacuated mothers, named "Sunnyside," and situated in Pittville Circus Road.

The returns at the end of 1940 showed a total of 273 beds available in registered nursing homes, of which 145 are for general cases and 128 are normally reserved for maternity cases.

All homes were inspected during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES, 1940.

Number of Midwives in the area of the Local Supervising Authority and number of cases attended by them during the year and the capacity in which they attended.

Nature of Employment of Midwives	No. of Midwives practising at end of 1940			CASES ATTENDED			
	Domiciliary	In Institution	Totals	Capacity in which Midwives Acted	In Own Home	In Institution	Totals
(A) Employed in Institutions by Gloucestershire C.C.	—	17	17	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	2 —	260 6	262 6
(B) Employed by Voluntary Associations (Victoria Home)							
(i) Under arrangements made in pursuance of Section 1 of the Midwives Act 1936	5	—	5	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	335 65	— —	355 65
(ii) Under private arrangements	—	3	3	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	nil. nil.	55 65	55 65
* (C) In private practice	11	7	18	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	104 71	51 265	155 336
Totals	16	27	43	As Midwives As Maternity Nurses	441 136	366 336	807 472
	43			Combined Totals	577	702	1279

Estimated Number of Domiciliary Births during the year in the area of the Local Supervising Authority

612

* Classified according to normal practice. Some of these Midwives attend cases under both headings.

NOTES ON MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES.

During 1940 there were 1303 (live and still) births in the Borough. The number includes 1282 births which were notified and 21 births where failure to notify was discovered by checking the notifications against the Registrar's return of registered births. Midwives returned 1279 cases which, together with thirteen twin births, accounts for 1292 births out of the total of 1303. Under normal conditions in recent years the total births figure has varied between 700 and 900. The increase was mainly associated with the opening of "Sunnyside" as a maternity home by the County Authority last autumn. This home has approximately 70 beds and there had already been 232 births there before the close of the year.

There were three maternal deaths associated with childbirth. In one case the patient also suffered from valvular heart disease. In another case pneumonia was the actual cause of death.

INSPECTION OF MIDWIVES.

The work of private Midwives increased during the year in much the same proportion as the general increase in births. The total of domiciliary births attended by private midwives was 175, compared with 106 in 1939. Three Midwives attended 99, 38 and 20 cases respectively. The remaining 18 cases were divided between 5 midwives.

The Victoria Home Midwives, whose salaries are paid indirectly by the Borough, attended 400 cases. Supervision of the service was maintained by visits of inspection.

1. Notices received from Midwives.

The following is a summary of the special notices received from midwives during 1940 :—

Notification of Still Births	...	...	...	...	18
„ Death of Infant	...	...	...	...	13
„ Death of Mother	...	...	...	...	1
„ Artificial Feeding being adopted	...	...	...	...	14
„ Liability to be a Source of Infection	...	...	...	...	1
„ Having laid out of dead body...	...	...	...	...	0

Total number of Notices received 47

2. Number of Cases in which Medical Aid was summoned during the year under Section 14 (1) of the Midwives Act 1918, by a Midwife.

(i) In domiciliary practice	248	} Total 294
(ii) In Institutional practice	46	

The figure 294 represents 36·4% of the total of 807 cases which were attended in the capacity of midwife, compared with 46·7% for 1939.

The following is an analysis of the reasons necessitating the calls for the assistance of a Doctor.

(a) Conditions arising before Labour	{ Albuminuria	...	...	6
	{ Other Conditions	...	...	30
(b) Miscarriage, Abortion and Premature Labour	...	...	...	2
	{ Perineal Injuries	...	...	65
	{ Delayed Labour	...	...	35
	{ Abnormal Presentations	...	...	14
(c) Conditions arising during Labour	{ Abnormal Haemorrhage	...	...	8
	{ Retained Products of Conception	...	...	4
	{ Other conditions	...	...	7
	{ Rise of Temperature	...	...	17
(d) Conditions arising after Labour	{ Other conditions	...	...	31
	{ Feebleness or Prematurity	...	...	13
	{ Inflamed Eyes	...	...	47
(e) Condition of the Infant	{ Deformities	...	...	3
	{ Other conditions	...	...	12
Total				294

Doctors' Fees under the Midwives Acts.				£	s.	d.
Total amount of fees paid to Doctors during the period						
April 1st, 1940 to March 31st, 1941				177	5	0
Amount rechargeable to Patients under the Income Scale				102	9	0

Of this, £52 10s. 2d. was repaid by patients during the year, and in addition £25 5s. 0d. was received on previous accounts.

In over 100 cases the patient paid the Doctor direct, and no account reached the Council. In addition, over 50 patients paid the account direct on receiving a written communication from the office. The cases settled in this way involved fees estimated at approximately £225. The cost of payments to Doctors under the Midwives Acts was therefore about one quarter of the total fees due to Doctors.

GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC.

This Clinic, which was opened in 1938, is mainly intended for Birth Control work. Help is only given to Mothers whose health is such as to render further pregnancy undesirable.

Where patients are able to pay, a fee of 10/6 is charged for the first visit; the second visit within six months is free and subsequent visits are charged at 2/6.

During 1940, twenty-three clinics were held and 58 Mothers attended (of whom eight were County cases). The number of separate attendances totalled 85.

THE MATERNITY WORK OF THE VICTORIA HOME. STATISTICS FOR 1940.

1. Ward Cases.

		<i>Midwifery Cases</i>	<i>Maternity Cases</i>
Borough Cases	85 comprising	54	31
County Cases	35 „	1	34
Totals	120 „	55	65

The average duration of stay in hospital of the cases admitted to the wards for confinement was fourteen days.

The number of calls for medical aid arising from the 55 midwifery cases attended in the ward was 21 or 38%.

In addition to the above-mentioned cases, 45 mothers were admitted, mostly for short periods of one or two days, for Ante-natal observation treatment and special tests.

2. District Cases.

Midwifery	...	...	...	...	335
Maternity	...	...	...	...	65
Total					<hr/> 400 <hr/>

These figures show the work of the "Domiciliary" Service provided under the Midwives' Act, 1936 by the Home, in conjunction with the Borough Council. Five midwives are engaged solely on this work, and they therefore had an average of 80 cases each, which is a satisfactory number. Medical assistance was called for on 178 occasions, that is in 44.5% of the cases.

3. Ante-natal Clinic and Post-Natal Clinic.

This Clinic is held at the Victoria Home, each Thursday, at 11 a.m. During 1940, 547 Mothers attended for Ante-Natal and 4 for Post-Natal examination and advice. Shortage of staff rendered curtailment of the Post-Natal work unavoidable.

4. Home Helps.

The Borough Council allocates a sum of £25 per annum to be used in providing "Home Helps" during the confinement of the mother when suitable assistance is not otherwise available. This money is placed at the disposal of the Victoria Home.

During 1940, Home Helps were provided in several cases.

5. Maternity Ward.

The demand for accommodation in this Ward, under the Borough Scheme, has shown a definite increase. The decision of the Committee of the Victoria Home, made in 1938, not to admit any ordinary paying patients, proved particularly opportune in view of conditions associated with the war. There is no doubt that the admission of patients as at present regulated by an income scale, under which only part of the fee is charged, has resulted in the provision of accommodation for those whose need is greatest.

During 1940, the following amounts were paid for the use of the Ward:—

	£	s.	d.
Cheltenham Borough Council, for Patients admitted under the Scheme	...	...	...
Patients' Contributions	...	...	...
Cheltenham Borough Council, General Contribution to Maternity Ward	...	...	...
Gloucester County Council, for Patients admitted	...	...	...
Total	£1265	15	9

INFANT WELFARE.

Work of Health Visitors, January 1st—December 31st, 1940.

No. of Children on Register	...	...	...	...	...	4280
„ Un-notified Live Births discovered	...	...	...	...	...	21
„ Un-notified Still Births discovered	...	...	...	...	...	—
„ Home Visits paid by Health Visitors (a) 1 year and under	...	...	...	...	...	6614
„ „ „ „ (b) over 1 year	...	...	...	...	...	7642
„ Special visits to Mothers (Ante-natal cases 428)	...	...	...	...	...	487
„ First Visits paid by Health Visitors	...	...	...	...	...	889
„ Chicken-pox cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	22
„ Measles cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	157
„ Whooping-cough cases visited...	...	...	...	...	...	37
„ Mumps cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	1
„ Ophthalmia Neonatorum cases visited	...	...	...	...	...	2
„ Attendances of Health Visitors at Centres	...	...	...	...	...	271
„ Cases reported to N.S.P.C.C.	...	...	...	...	...	5

Dental Treatment of Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under 5.

The following table shows the work done by the School Dentist for the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during 1940.

				<i>Saturday Morning</i>		<i>Thursday Evening</i>	
				<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Children under 5</i>	<i>Mothers</i>	<i>Children under 5</i>
Attendances	...	...	...	152	18	294	26
Extractions	...	...	...	2	1	93	4
Extractions (under gas)	...	...	...	448	253	23	—
Fillings	...	...	...	9	3	24	12
Attendances for other treatment, impressions, fitting dentures, etc.	...	...	...	50	9	231	16
No. of sessions held during 1940				38		47	

Total number of dentures provided during 1940 ... 54.

Number of cases receiving assistance in payment ... 2.

In order to meet the difficulty presented by children under school age requiring multiple extractions under a general anæsthetic, an arrangement was put into operation early in 1940 for the work to be done at the Children's Hospital by the School Dentist. This enables children to be kept lying down for an hour or two to recover from the effects of the extractions and anæsthetic.

During 1940, fifteen Sessions were held, at which 67 children were treated and 249 teeth extracted. These extractions are included in the general figures given above.

Children Acts.

The following figures show the extent of the year's work under these acts.

Number of visits by Health Visitors ...	...	...	...	...	128
Number of visits by School Nurses ...	...	...	...	...	32
Number of individual children on the register at the end of the year					44
Number of children who died during the year	...	...	...		0
Number of Foster Mothers on the register at the end of the year					27

The home visits necessitated by these Acts are made by the Health Visitors in the case of children under 5 and by the School Nurses where children between the ages of 5 and 9 are concerned.

Provision of Milk for Nursing and Expectant Mothers and Children under five years of age.

The supply of liquid milk by the Maternity and Child Welfare Committee, under the old arrangements, ceased on the 10th August, 1940. From that date one pint of milk for each expectant or nursing mother and each child under five has been available through the Milk Officer at the Food Office. This supply is free, or at the rate of 2d. a pint, depending on the income. The only limitation is that milk is not provided for an infant when the mother is receiving an allowance for nursing purposes.

Dried milk is also provided in special cases, but as this has so far been of unmodified type, the supply of special forms of dried milk has been continued by the Borough through the Infant Welfare Organisation.

Up to August, 1940, 74,302 pints of milk were supplied under the old scheme at a cost of £905 3s. 4d., compared with £1,953 16s. 4½d. for the whole of 1939.

ORTHOPAEDIC CLINIC.

This Clinic provides for school children as well as children under school age.

The attendances are kept separate and the fees due to the Cheltenham General Hospital and to the Orthopaedic Surgeon and Nurse are paid in proportion to the attendances.

The figures given in this report refer to children under school age only, unless otherwise stated.

A quarterly report is made to each Committee.

Summary of Work done during the Year and Analysis of Cases Treated.

Number of Clinics held	...	...	...	24
				<i>Committee Responsible</i>
				<i>Education Maternity and</i>
				<i>Child Welfare</i>
Number of individual children on the Register at the end of the year	...	61	29	
No. of Surgeon's consultations...	...	88	50	
No. of separate attendances for treatment		482	35	
Total attendances...		570	85	

Number of Cases on the Register (under School Age).

					<i>No. of Cases</i>
On the Register, 1st January, 1940	...	...	...	...	44
Removed (Non-attendance, transfers to County, School Section, etc.)	...	...	...	...	37
New Cases during the year	...	...	...	...	22
Remaining on the Register, 1st January, 1941	...	...	...	...	29

Summary of Conditions requiring Treatment in 29 Cases remaining on the Register at the end of 1940.

				<i>On Register</i>
				<i>1st Jan., 1941</i>
Flat Feet	...	...	...	10
Flat Feet and Knock Knees	...	...	...	3
Knock Knees	...	...	...	1
Bow Legs	...	...	...	10
Talipes Equino Varus	...	...	...	1
Torticollis	...	...	...	1
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	3
Totals	...	...	...	29

CHELTENHAM INFANT WELFARE ASSOCIATION. THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT.

April 1st, 1940—March 31st, 1941.

Thanks are due to Mrs. Lock Mellersh, President of the Association, for permission to include this report.

Attendances at Grosvenor Street (47 meetings)	1534	Infants	1373	Toddlers	2907
Attendances at Emmanuel (47 meetings)	2032	Infants	1641	Toddlers	3673
Attendances at St. Mark's (47 meetings)	2028	Infants	1813	Toddlers	3841
Attendances at Baker Street (47 meetings)	1121	Infants	1150	Toddlers	2271
Attendances at St. Michael's Hall (47 meetings)	929	Infants	1363	Toddlers	2292
Total ...					14984

WEEKLY TODDLER INSPECTIONS.

41 meetings : 213 attendances.

Number of individual Children attending the five Centres :—

Grosvenor Street, 393 ; Emmanuel, 452 ; Baker Street, 436 ; St. Mark's, 373 ;	
St. Michael's Hall, 380	2034
Visits paid by Club Visitor (since April 1st, 1940)	1195

NOTES ON THE WORK OF THE YEAR.

Much good work has been achieved at the Toddler Clinic during the year. The attendances have averaged five each session. This number, though small, is really sufficient to enable the child to have a thorough examination in the time allowed.

On June 21st, a party was held in the Athletic Ground, Albion Street, for about 150 of the mothers who had made the best attendances throughout the year. Tea was given by the Committee, Voluntary Workers and friends of the Infant Welfare Association, and after tea simple competitions were arranged for the mothers and many enjoyed the band which played popular music throughout the evening.

The number of children who continue to attend the remedial classes is disappointing, for as soon as they reach an age to benefit from these exercises they go to school and from thence onwards only occasionally attend the Infant Welfare Centre.

At the end of May, Dr. Grassie was called up and his locum tenens, Dr. Perkins, has taken his place at the Grosvenor Street Welfare.

During the year, War Savings groups have been started at three of the Centres, the totals since the start are Grosvenor Street, £14 14s. ; Emmanuel, £92 10s. and St. Mark's, £39 10s. It is hoped to extend these groups to the other two centres as soon as possible.

It is with the very sincerest regret that the Committee have to report the resignation of Dr. Basil Taylor from his post as Medical Officer to the St. Mark's Centre. He has held the appointment since the Centre opened in September, 1928, and his very ready sympathy and untiring patience have contributed in no small measure to the efficiency of the work. He will be missed by both mothers and helpers alike. His place has been taken by Dr. Dorothy Collett.

The Committee are grateful to the Trustees of the Wesleyan Sunday School at St. Mark's for permission to use their newly built room. This additional room has done much to relieve congestion and to enable the weighing and other routine work to be carried through with much greater speed.

It was only possible to send one child to the Convalescent Home at Weston-super-Mare during the summer, he had a month's stay and benefitted very much from the change.

The Committee have been able to keep up an almost normal supply of foods for the Centres, but owing to war conditions virol was unobtainable for several weeks and for one week ostermilk was very short. It is impossible to hold a large reserve, as these foods do not keep well and the amount sold varies considerably.

The Committee have to report the resignation of Mrs. Gurney from her position of Vice-Chairman, but they are grateful to her for continuing to serve on the Committee. Miss Tinson was elected Vice-Chairman in her place.

Talks on food values and economy were given at all Centres during July, these aroused great interest. Cooking demonstrations were also arranged, but were not well attended.

The Committee would again like to record their thanks to the splendid band of helpers, without whose loyalty and enthusiasm it would not be possible to carry on this work on a voluntary basis.

REPORT OF BOROUGH SANITARY INSPECTOR FOR 1940

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of
Cheltenham.*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my thirteenth Report as Sanitary Inspector and Housing Officer for the Borough of Cheltenham.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health and the Home Office, tables are included giving full particulars of the inspections made. The usual notes and local information have been omitted from the report on account of the War Emergency.

The visitation of drainage work at institutions, schools, houses, business premises, etc. has been maintained, but with two District Sanitary Inspectors on military service it was only possible to carry out essential duties. In December, the staff was increased by the appointment of Mr. H. Stone, from the Chislehurst and Sidcup U.D.C., who within a few days of his arrival was employed on food salvage work as the result of enemy action. I am pleased to state that Staff Sergt. J. F. Ursell has obtained a commission in the Cavalry, after carrying out interesting work in the sanitary and hygiene section in the Middle East, and Mr. A. L. Jones has been promoted to Corporal in the Field Hygiene Section. The two pupils in the Department, Corpl. H. E. Clapp and Trooper W. L. Booy, are serving in the Field Hygiene Section and the Royal Glos. Hussars respectively.

The normal work of the Sanitary Inspector, during 1940, was increased by the Government scheme for re-occupation of suitable condemned houses. The scheme has been of considerable assistance to the Billeting and Evacuation Department, and the Cheltenham Gas Company were very helpful in connection with the restoration of the necessary gas piping, fittings, etc. I am satisfied that the rents charged have been in accordance with the prescribed conditions. Some progress was made in the repair and reconditioning of houses and also in the execution of repairs where a certificate of fitness was required. The Ministry of Supply have been most sympathetic and helpful in cases of urgency.

Under the Ministry of Food scheme for protection of food, I have been appointed Gas Contamination Officer for Cheltenham Borough and the Urban District of Charlton Kings.

The use of the Public Abattoir as a Government Slaughterhouse commenced early in January, and this has proved of considerable worth to the Meat and Livestock Section of the Ministry of Food in this area of the County. I am pleased to record the harmonious working at the Abattoir between the officials of the Ministry and the Officers of the Local Authority. The financial result has been in accordance with my original estimate, and at the end of the year it disclosed a favourable credit balance, against a loss of about £400 per annum in former years.

My thanks are due to the Chairman and Members of the Public Health and Housing Committees for the help and consideration given to me in carrying out my duties as a Sanitary Officer. Mention should be made in this Report of the assistance I have received from the other Officers of the Council and the District Inspectors and Staff during a year of strenuous activity.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

F. R. JEFFORD,

August, 1941.

F.S.I.A., M.R. San. I.

NOTICES, ETC.

The total number of inspections made during the year was 8,039. In 461 houses and premises dealt with, nuisances to the number of 763 were discovered, but 650 were abated including a number left over from the previous year. In dealing with sanitary defects from which they arose, 117 preliminary or informal and 21 statutory or formal notices were served.

The number of letters received and dispatched by the Department was 529. In order to supervise sanitary and housing work in progress, 3,128 visits were made. The number of complaints received in the Health Department numbered 387 as against 528 in the previous year.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The following Table shows the amount of Routine Inspection Work performed by the Sanitary Inspectors.

Details of Inspection—TABLE No. I.

TOTAL NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS	...	...	...	...	...	...	8,039
WORK IN PROGRESS.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,128
INTERVIEWS.							
Number of interviews with Builders, Contractors, Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	679
DWELLING HOUSES.							
Number inspected and particulars recorded (Housing Acts, 1930)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number found to be totally unfit for human habitation	...						1
„ „ „ not in all respects fit for habitation	...						1
„ inspected (special enquiries, etc.)	...	...	...				35
„ „ (ordinary inspections)	...	...	...				34
„ „ re infectious disease	...	...	...				627
„ „ after service of notice (re inspections)	...						28
„ „ re water supply	...	...	...	...			3
„ „ on complaint of Rent Restriction Act	...						—
„ „ re Underground Sleeping Rooms (Sec. 20 H.A., 1930)	...	...	...	...			12
„ visits Overcrowding Survey	...	...	...				790
„ inspected for Sec. 51 Certificate	...	...	...				14
SCHOOLS.							
Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
FACTORIES.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
OUTWORKERS' INSPECTIONS	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
BAKEHOUSES.							
Factory inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Ordinary „	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
COWSHEDS AND FARMS.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	131
ICE CREAM PREMISES.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	70
SLAUGHTERHOUSES.							
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	40

(Slaughtering at Private Slaughter Houses discontinued after Jan. 12th).

PUBLIC ABATTOIR (GOVERNMENT SLAUGHTERHOUSE).						
Number of inspections	...	...	Continuous Attendance			
BUTCHERS' AND GROCERS' SHOPS, COLD STORES, ETC.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	298
OFFENSIVE TRADES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	14
FRIED FISH SHOPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	35
COMMON LODGING HOUSES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6
HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	31
FOOD SHOPS (TOTAL).						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	298
SHOPS' ACT, 1934.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	105
INFECTIOUS DISEASES.						
Number of visits and inspections	...	...	...	...	...	1,113
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE CONVENIENCES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	20
PLACES LICENSED FOR PUBLIC ENTERTAINMENT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	15
PLACES WHERE ANIMALS ARE KEPT.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	6
SMOKE OBSERVATIONS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	—
TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	3
MARKET STALLS AND FAIRS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	17
RAT INFESTATION.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	350
MINOR SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	27
PUBLIC AND PRIVATE REFUSE TIPS.						
Number of inspections	...	...	...	...	...	10

**Sanitary Improvements made and Defects remedied under the
Supervision of the Chief Sanitary Inspector.**

TABLE No. II.

HOUSES.

Yards and areas paved...	...	...	...	...	...	135
Eaves gutters and rainwater down pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	190
Overcrowding abated	...	...	...	...	...	—
Disinfected after infectious disease	...	...	...	...	...	222

SCHOOLS.

Sanitary conveniences improved and cleansed	20
---	-----	-----	----

BAKEHOUSES.

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	30
Found in an insanitary condition	...	...	...	...	...	—

DAIRIES AND MILKSHOPS.

Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	65
New Registrations	...	...	...	...	...	5

ICE CREAM MANUFACTURERS' PREMISES.

Cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

OFFENSIVE TRADES' PREMISES.

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	26
Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	2

SLAUGHTERHOUSES (Private).

Cleansed and limewashed	...	...	...	...	...	6
Sanitary condition improved...	...	...	...	...	...	6

DRAINS.

Opened and examined	46
Water tests applied to drains	620
Smoke " " and soil pipes... ..	315
New drains laid... ..	425
Length in yards of stoneware pipe drains laid	3,100
" " of heavy cast iron drains "	2,950
Manholes and inspection chambers provided	565
Intercepting traps fixed	375
Iron and stoneware gully traps fixed... ..	750
Drains flushed	80

SEWAGE DISPOSAL SCHEMES.

Provision of septic tanks, filter beds and effluent drains ...	25
--	----

SUBSOIL DRAINS.

Subsoil drains laid	15
----------------------------	----

WATER CLOSETS AND URINALS.

New water closets built	280
New w.c. pans of the washdown type fixed	500
Flushing boxes fixed to w.c.'s	175
" " repaired	60
Water closets and drains unstopped	260
Defective and dirty w.c. pans... ..	80
New urinals fixed	40

SOIL AND VENTILATING SHAFTS.

New soil and ventilating shafts fixed... ..	340
---	-----

WASTE PIPES.

New waste pipes fixed and repaired	600
Trapped and disconnected	560
Siphonage or vent pipes fixed... ..	300

SINKS.

New sinks, baths and lavatory basins fixed... ..	785
--	-----

ASH RECEPTACLES.

New moveable galvanised with covers provided	—
---	---

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notices sent to Masters and Mistresses of schools with regard to infectious disease	106
Notices sent to Parents with regard to infectious disease	110
" " " Public Library with regard to infectious disease	—
Articles of clothing disinfected	13,136
" " " etc., disinfected for outside Sanitary Authorities, etc.	3,994

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1940.

1. Inspection of Dwelling-Houses during the year :—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	37
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	90
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1935	3
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	110
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	2
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	40

2. Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	14
--	--	----

3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :	
	(a) By owners	1
	(b) By local authority in default of owners...	—

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	21
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
	(a) By owners	21
	(b) By local authority in default of owners...	—

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	...	...	4
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	...	...	—

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	...	...	—
(2)	Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	...	...	—

E.—Statutory Undertakings under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which formal undertakings were signed by owners	...	...	...	...	—
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were completed under formal undertaking given by owners	...	...	...	...	11
(3)	Number of dwelling-houses subject to representation but acquired by L.A. and reconditioned or reconstructed. Housing Acts, 1925 and 1935	...	...	...	...	—

4. Housing Act, 1936. Overcrowding.**Number of New Houses erected during 1939 :—**

(a)	Total	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
	(1) By local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(2) By other bodies or persons	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
(b)	Without State Assistance under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(c)	With State Assistance under the Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(1) By the local authority	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
(d)	Proposed under (1) Housing Act, 1930	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(2) Housing Act, 1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	—
	(3) Housing Act, 1935	...	...	...	...	...	...	—

Number of Animals slaughtered during 1940.

TABLE No. 3.

Species	Private Slaughterhouses	Abattoir	Total
Bullocks	5	1,333	1,338
Heifers	36	2,321	2,357
Cows	—	886	886
Calves	18	2,339	2,354
Sheep	279	28,203	28,482
Pigs	85	6,623	6,708
Total	423	44,705	42,128

Carcases Inspected and General Report on same.

TABLE No. 4.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Totals
No. Killed	3695	886	2357	28482	6708	42,128
No. Inspected	3695	886	2357	28482	6708	42,128
All Diseases except Tuberculosis						
Whole Carcases ..	1	—	2	42	34	79
Some part or organs condemned ...	438	213	4	464	1209	2328
Percentage affected ...	11·88	24·04	0·25	1·77	20·02	5·71
Tuberculosis only						
Whole Carcases ...	7	25	2	—	14	46
Some part or organ condemned ...	251	243	—	—	438	934
Percentage affected ...	6·98	30·24	0·08	—	6·73	2·32
Totals	697	481	8	506	1695	3387
Percentages on Totals	18·86	54·28	0·33	1·77	25·26	8·03

Carcases Condemned as Totally Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 5.

Species	T.B.	Mori- bund	Bacter- ial Disease Not T.B.	Abnormal Pathologi- cal Conditions	Inflamatory Diseases	Immature	Parasitical Diseases	Total Number of Animals
Cows ...	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	25
Heifers ...	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	4
Bulls ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bullocks ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Calves ...	2	1	—	—	—	1	—	4
Sheep ...	—	5	—	29	2	1	5	42
Pigs ...	14	—	28	1	1	—	—	48
Total ...	48	6	29	8	3	2	5	127

TABLE No. 6.

					Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.
Beef in carcase	...	...	...	...	8	19	3	19
Pork	„	...	...	...	1	—	2	12 $\frac{1}{2}$
Veal	„	...	...	...	—	1	3	23
Mutton	„	...	...	...	2	1	1	9
Meat not in carcase	...	...	...	...	5	1	2	22
Organs	...	...	...	...	19	11	—	22
Total ...					36	16	2	23 $\frac{1}{2}$

Tinned Goods, Fish, Poultry, etc., condemned as Unfit for Human Food.

TABLE No. 7.

	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
MEATS.				
Beef and Pork Sausages, Meat Pies ...		2	—	16
Bacon and Ham		1	—	3
MISCELLANEOUS TINNED FOODS.				
Tinned Hams		1	—	6
308 Tins Mixed Fruits, Vegetables, Fish Paste, Jams, Soups, etc. ...		3	1	18
Sugar and Tea		4	—	1
Potatoes and Vegetables		3	2	22
POULTRY.				
60 Fowls, 2 Turkeys, 12 Ducks ...		2	3	25
RABBITS.				
5 Rabbits				9
EGGS. 3162... ..		3	2	4
FISH.				
Herrings, Hake, Codling, Mackerel, Haddock, etc.		7	2	27
MISCELLANEOUS FOODS.				
Cakes, Biscuits, Swiss Roll, Slab Cake, Christmas Puddings		1	3	17
Cheese			1	21
Total ...	1	12	0	1

Report on the Administration of Factories Acts, 1937, in connection with Factories, Workplaces and Home Work.

TABLE No. 8.

1. Inspection of Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Premises (1)	Number of		
	Inspections (2)	Written and Verbal notices (3)	Prosecutions (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	55	10	Nil
Workplaces (Other than Out-workers premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	55	10	Nil

2. Defects found in Factories and Workplaces.

Particulars (1)	Number of Defects			Number of offences in respect to which Prosecutions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspector (4)	
Nuisances under the Public Health Acts : Want of Cleanliness	10	10	Nil	Nil

3. Other Matters.

Class	Number
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories	Nil
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory Act 1937 (s. 114)	Nil
Notified by H.M. Inspector of Factories	Nil
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector	Nil
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101)	2
Certificates granted during the year	Nil
In use at the end of the year	Nil

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

It was not found necessary for the local authority to issue a summons against any person during 1940, at the instigation of the Public Health Committee.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Samples examined were as follows :

	Formal	Informal	Total
Milk	60	—	60
Margarine	1	1	2
Cheese		4	4
Whisky		1	1
Jelly		1	1
Sugar... ..		1	1
Milk (Condensed, Unsweetened) ...	1	—	1
Peppermint Cordial		1	1
Grape Fruit Squash	1	2	3
Blauds Pills		1	1
Butter		1	1
Honey		1	1
Codliver Oil and Malt Extract ...	1	1	2
Cream Buns		1	1
Baking Powder		1	1
Jam (Raspberry)	2	1	3
Coffee Extract		1	1
Lard		4	4
Sausages (Beef)		2	2
„ (Pork)		3	3
Olive Oil		1	1
Boracic Powder		1	1
Calomel Ointment		1	1
Sweet Spirits of Nitre		1	1
Sacharrin		1	1
Pickles		1	1
Oatmeal		1	1
Ice Cream		2	2
Phenol Lozenges... ..		1	1
Vinegar		3	3
Total	66	41	107

ADULTERATED SAMPLES.

Four samples of milk were found to be slightly deficient in fat, and three samples were found to be slightly deficient in non-fatty solids. Two samples of margariné contained excess of water to the extent of 2.65% and 4.40% respectively. Three samples of raspberry jam were found to be seriously deficient in raspberries, but the issue of a summons was not practicable. In nine other cases articles on analysis showed slight deficiencies or irregularities.

Where necessary the vendor was warned, but in no case, during 1940, were proceedings considered to be warranted.

